North Carolina is consistently ranked as one of the most business-friendly states in America, with a well-trained and highly-motivated workforce that makes our state an ideal place for businesses to invest and expand. Gov. Perdue, though, is not content to rest on our great busi¬ness climate alone. Her budget initiatives are designed to stimulate economic growth and help companies create jobs for North Carolinians:

Put People Back to Work

A credit to encourage small businesses to hire post-911 veterans or unemployed North Carolinians now and retain them for at least a year.

Support small businesses

The Governor's budget includes:

- A credit for angel investments in certain small businesses.
- A small Business Startup Tax Credit.
- A Research and Development Innovation Tax Credit

Support Manufacturing and Other Key Industries

To aid job creation in industries, such as manufacturing, the budget will: